

**UPDATED INFORMATIVE DIGEST
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 2**

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code, Section 1226 authorizes the Office to prescribe, in consultation with the Community Clinics Advisory Committee, minimum standards for the physical plant of clinics, for adoption in the California Building Standards Code.

Health and Safety Code, Section 1275 authorizes OSHPD to adopt and enforce building standards for the physical plant of health facilities including hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and correctional treatment centers.

Health and Safety Code, Section 129790 authorizes OSHPD to propose building standards for correctional treatment centers in cooperation with the Department of Corrections, Board of Corrections and Department of Youth Authority.

Health and Safety Code, Section 129850 authorizes OSHPD to propose building standards, as necessary to effectively carry out the provisions of the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act.

Government Code, Section 11152.5 authorizes a state department to adopt regulations pursuant to the Government Code. Regulations with are building standards, must be adopted pursuant to State Building Standards Law of the Health and Safety Code (commencing with Section 18901).

Summary of Existing Regulations

The OSHPD currently enforces the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 2, 2001California Building Code (CBC) with California amendments relating to requirements for health facilities.

Summary of Effect

This proposal will amend provisions of the 2001 edition of the CBC regarding the requirements for the construction of hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, clinics and correctional treatment centers. The proposal will:

- Clarify that requirements for skilled nursing facilities also apply to “distinct part” units on a hospital license and within hospital buildings and will clarify application of the code for OSHPD 1 and OSHPD 2 for skilled nursing facilities.
- Delete the requirement for operable windows in hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, and it will provide that patient bedrooms in a skilled nursing facility will be designed to accommodate a maximum of four patients.
- Clarify that requirements for utilities and systems serving hospital buildings do not apply to licensed clinics.
- Include modifications to the seismic design procedures for nonstructural components, editorial clarification to requirements for foundation design, concrete design, masonry design, steel design, wood design, and adoption of a more current edition of the National Design Specification for Wood, published by the American Forest and Paper Association.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable federal statutes or regulations that address the requirements of this proposal.

Policy Statement Overview

OSHDP adopts Title 24, Part 2, CBC requirements for the construction of hospital, skilled nursing facility, licensed clinic and correctional treatment center. This proposal represents amendments to the architectural and structural provisions for these health facilities.

Chapter 1 of the CBC contains language defining the scope of OSHDP's statutory authority. These proposed amendments clarify the application of OSHPD 1 and OSHPD 2 requirements for skilled nursing facilities.

Chapter 420A and 421A contain requirements specific to hospitals and skilled nursing facilities. The requirement for operable windows is being deleted, and the application of requirements for skilled nursing facilities is being clarified. Chapter 422A contains requirements specific to licensed clinics.

Requirements governing the structural design and construction of hospitals and correctional treatment centers are found in Chapters 16A through 23A of the 2001 CBC. These chapters are based on the structural provisions of the 1997 Uniform Building Code (UBC). Some advances in the structural engineering art in the design of nonstructural components were not incorporated in the 1997 UBC structural provisions. The Office is proposing a design approach for vertical accelerations on nonstructural components that more closely follows the general requirements of the NEHRP Recommended Provisions for Seismic Regulations for New Buildings and Other Structures, 2000 Edition, FEMA 368, for the design of hospital buildings. The Office is proposing superseding portions of Chapter 23A of the 2001 CBC, and the adoption of the 1997 National Design Specification (NDS) for Wood. This reference will replace the 1991 edition of NDS, which is no longer in print, with the 2001 edition.

Additionally, editorial and minor technical amendments must be made to various sections of the code for clarification and consistency within the CBC.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable federal statute or regulations that address the requirements of this proposal.

Small Business Affect

These proposed regulations will not have an impact on small business.